

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /105 W
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R 171608Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2617
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2886
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12467

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, CH, PFOR, ETRD
SUBJECT: EC/CHINA RELATIONS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 11807 (NOTAL), (B) EC BRUSSELS 11608 (NOTAL),
(C) EC BRUSSELS 4253 (NOTAL), (D) EC BRUSSELS 12303 (NOTAL)

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL MICHAEL RICHARDSON (OF SOAMES' STAFF) HAS BRIEFED US ON PRC AMBASSADOR HUAN HSIANG'S CALL ON SIR CHRISTOPHER LAST WEEK (EC BRUSSELS 11807). ACCORDING TO RICHARDSON, HUAN GAVE EVERY INDICATION OF STAYING ON IN BRUSSELS AND PROVIDED NO HINT OF BEING INVOLVED IN OR AFFECTED BY THE RECENT TURMOIL IN THE PRC. HE SAID THAT HUAN INTIMATED TO SOAMES THAT THE CURRENT CONSOLIDATION OF THE CHINESE POLITICAL SITUATION SHOULD CLEAR THE WAY FOR EARLY CONCLUSION OF AN EC/PRC TRADE AGREEMENT (EC BRUSSELS 5253). RICHARDSON ADDED HIS OWN COMMENT THAT PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH THE CHINESE, PRIOR TO THE ONSET OF THE PRC INTERNAL CRISIS, HAD
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RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARDS SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

2. RICHARDSON SAID THAT HUAN HAD EXPRESSED BARELY CONCEALED DELIGHT WITH THE TONE OF THE EC RESPONSE TO CEMA'S PROPOSAL FOR A COOPERATION AGREEMENT (EC

BRUSSELS 11608). RICHARDSON MENTIONED THAT, SUBSEQUENT TO THE SOAMES/HUAN HSIANG MEETING, HE HIMSELF HAD MET WITH HUAN'S DEPUTY, YU HUI-MIN, WHO HAD ALSO COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE EC'S HARD LINE WITH THE SOVIETS ON FISHING RIGHTS (EC BRUSSELS 12303).

3. RICHARDSON EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE CHINESE WOULD LIKELY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY SOVIET QUANDARY OVER HOW TO DEAL WITH THE EC MOVES ON THE CEMA PROPOSAL AND ON FISH TO ENHANCE THEIR OWN PROFILE WITH THE COMMUNITY. HINTON

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